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Attorney Docket: 951/49710  
PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: ANDREAS SCHUHBAECK

Serial No.: 09/837,610 Group Art Unit: 2874 39

Filed: APRIL 19, 2001 Examiner:

Title: ARRANGEMENT OF SEVERAL FERRULES FOR OPTICAL  
WAVE GUIDES AND PROCESS OF MANUFACTURING A  
BELT OF PLASTIC FERRULES

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 CFR §§ 1.97 and 1.98

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 CFR §1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem relevant to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 CFR §1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a corresponding foreign Search Report citing such documents, together with an English-language version (if not already included) of that portion of the Search Report indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign office.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (1) no later than three months from the application's filing date or (2) before the mailing

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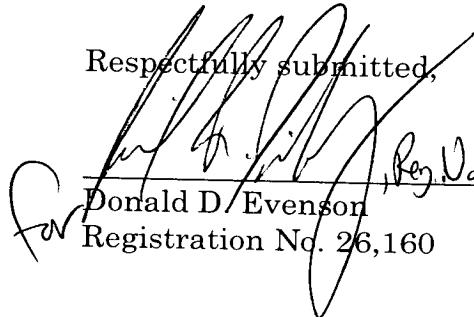
date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later), and therefore no certification under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) is required.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

If necessary, the paper should be considered as a petition for consideration of the Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d)(2) and that the petition fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i) in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d)(3) should be charged to Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Docket# 951/49710).

Respectfully submitted,

March 8, 2002

  
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